



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 6 September 2007

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- According to the Associated Press, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission reversed a three-year secrecy policy and said Tuesday it would release hundreds of documents involving the operations of a Tennessee nuclear fuel processing plant. (See item [11](#))
- Forbes News reports toymaker Mattel announced a global recall, covering 11 types of toys, including 675,000 units of accessories--pet figurines and furniture play sets--sold under the Barbie brand and 98,900 units of Fisher-Price toys. (See item [36](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: **ELEVATED**,
Cyber: **ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 4, AP* – **Oil, gas futures rise on storm worries.** Oil and gas futures rose Tuesday on expectations the hurricane season will intensify and that OPEC will not boost production when it meets next week. Hurricane Felix slammed into Central America near the Nicaragua-Honduras border as a Category 5 storm early Tuesday then weakened. While Felix and an earlier hurricane, Dean, have largely spared oil and gas infrastructure in the Gulf of Mexico, a Colorado State University forecaster on Tuesday said six more hurricanes are likely this season. Gasoline inventories have fallen sharply in recent weeks to record lows, increasing risks to the supply chain if any storm scores a direct hit on the Gulf. Light, sweet crude for October delivery rose \$1.04 to settle at \$75.08 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, and October gasoline rose 2.65 cents to settle at \$1.991 a gallon.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp->

dyn/content/article/2007/09/04/AR2007090400354.html

2. *September 4, Platts* – **Dynegy, LS Power ready to start construction of Sandy Creek.** With financing secured and a part-interest in the project sold, Dynegy and LS Power Group are ready to break ground on the 900-MW Sandy Creek pulverized-coal power project in McLennan County, Texas. The plant, to be built on a 700-acre Greenfield site with access to Union Pacific, will take about 3.5 million short tons/year of Powder River Basin coal, a LS Power spokesman told Platts on Friday. Like other coal-fired projects proposed for the Lone Star State, this one has met opposition. Environmental Defense and Texans Protecting Our Water Environment and Resources joined in filing a lawsuit against the air permit in Travis County District Court, but the district judge upheld the permit.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/8236424.xml?sub=Coal&p=Coal/News&?undefined&undefined>

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Chemical Industry

3. *September 5, Los Angeles Times* – **California lawmakers pass bill banning chemical in plastic toys.** Worried that toddlers and infants might be unnecessarily exposed to toxics in plastic toys, California lawmakers Tuesday sent to the governor's desk a partial ban on the use of one potentially harmful chemical. The aim of the bill is to prohibit the use of certain phthalates in toys and child-care products designed for children younger than 3 years old. Phthalates are on California's Proposition 65 list as known to cause reproductive toxicity. Often used to make plastic flexible for use in items such as nipples for baby bottles, some studies have linked phthalates to testicular and liver damage. Opponents cited a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission study that determined that children were not at risk with plastic toys. Critics of the bill said use of other chemicals would result in more brittle plastics that can crack and injure children.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-me-toys5sep05,1,6447072.story?track=rss>

4. *September 5, Delaware Online* – **DuPont plant reopens after spill.** DuPont Co.'s Edge Moor plant has reopened as the company investigates a leak that allowed more than 1,000 pounds of an acid-forming chemical to escape into the Delaware River, a company official said this morning. For more than 90 minutes Sunday, highly reactive titanium tetrachloride spewed from a one-by-three-inch hole in a pipe at the plant where chlorine, titanium ores and coke are mixed to make titanium dioxide, a pigment used to whiten products ranging from paint to Oreo cookie filling. The chemical was immediately diluted with water piped in from the river, according to a DuPont spokesman. But the water also fed a chemical reaction that allowed an undetermined amount of hydrochloric acid to form and escape with other pollutants into the river. The spokesman said the leak did not pose a health concern to the local community. Production at the plant resumed just before midnight Tuesday.

Source:

<http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070905/NEWS/709050350>

5. *September 5, WHIO TV* – **Ohio community concerned over chemical vapors.** People who live in the McCook neighborhood in Dayton, Ohio said there is an invisible killer in their homes, and someone needs to be held accountable for it. A neighborhood association gathered on Tuesday night to talk about getting their homes tested for chemical vapors. They said the vapors come from a spill at the Behr plant and they insist that Daimler Chrysler needs to pay for more testing. Some residents are talking about suing the company.
Source: <http://www.whiotv.com/news/14047256/detail.html?rss=day&psp=news>
6. *September 5, AFP* – **ExxonMobil to build second petrochemical complex in Singapore.** ExxonMobil Chemical will build a second petrochemical complex in Singapore to meet growing demand for its products from Asia, the United States company said Wednesday. A company official declined to say how much the complex will cost but said ExxonMobil's first such plant in the city-state had cost about 2.0 billion US dollars. The new complex, expected to begin operations in 2011, would include an ethylene steam cracker with annual production capacity of one million tons (900,000 tonnes) and two 650,000-tons per year polyethylene units along with other facilities, the company said in a statement. US-based ExxonMobil is the world's biggest energy company.
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070905/bs_afp/singaporeuschemicalcompanyexxonmobil_070905052055;_ylt=ApKZm9kf3mOWTSTFi4IYmE8rYa7gF
7. *September 4, WNBC* – **Chemical found at U.N. not dangerous, tests suggest.** Tests of chemicals removed from the offices of United Nations came back negative for the deadly nerve gas phosgene, two law enforcement sources told WNBC.com. The tests were done at a U.S. military lab over the weekend and apparently show the chemicals are not lethal as first feared. Officials did not say what lab officials now believe the specific chemical breakdown of the substance is. They said more testing still needs to be done. A U.N. spokesman said the agency is still awaiting final test results, but added that it appears there was no danger at any time. The spokesman said an internal review of the incident will soon be underway.
Source: <http://www.wnbc.com/news/14041425/detail.html?rss=ny&psp=news>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste

8. *September 5, NBC News* – **Air Force official relieved after nuke flyover.** An Air Force squadron commander has been relieved of his command after five nuclear weapons were mistakenly loaded aboard a B-52 bomber and flown cross-country from North Dakota to Louisiana last week. Five 150-kiloton warheads were attached to cruise missiles that were flown from Minot Air Force Base, N.D., to Barksdale Air Force Base, La., to be dismantled, but the warheads should have been removed. Military officials insist the warheads remained “under control” at all times and did not pose a danger. The squadron commander however was immediately relieved of duty and is expected to lose his nuclear certification.
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20427730/>
9. *September 5, stuff.co.nz* – **Maps site reveals US nuclear submarine nomenclature.** A man looking for a new home on an online mapping service stumbled across an aerial image of a US

nuclear-powered submarine in dry dock showing its secret propeller design. The image is of the seven-bladed propeller used on an Ohio class ballistic missile submarine. The vessel was being worked on at a dry dock at the Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor in Washington. Propeller designs have been closely guarded secrets since the days of the Cold War. The propeller design is an integral part of a submarine's ability to remain undetected during operations, ensuring that it can patrol the seas in stealth without giving its position away to surface ships.

The find has triggered a debate over whether online mapping services should be allowed to snap and publish images of sensitive US military installations.

Source: <http://www.stuff.co.nz/4191216a28.html>

10. *September 5, Los Angeles Times* – **No Nevada water for nuclear dump.** The Energy Department's plan to build a nuclear waste dump in Nevada was trumped by Western water law Tuesday, when a federal judge rejected the agency's demand for 8 million gallons of water that state officials have refused to release. Energy officials said they needed the water to drill test holes at Yucca Mountain, the site about 90 miles north of Las Vegas where the government wants to store about 70,000 metric tons of high-level nuclear waste from across the nation. President Bush and Congress approved the site in 2002, but a series of legal and political setbacks has stalled the project. Without access to millions of gallons of state-controlled water, the Energy Department's only option may be to truck in water over long distances, placing another burden on the project and starting another activity that state officials could block.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-yucca5sep05,1,5612340.story?track=rss>

11. *September 4, AP* – **Nuclear regulators reverse secrecy policy, release documents.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reversed a three-year secrecy policy and said Tuesday it would release hundreds of documents involving the operations of a Tennessee nuclear fuel processing plant. The commission said it had directed its staff to review and make public some 1,900 documents that had been kept secret under the veil of national security involving Nuclear Fuel Services Inc. in Erwin and BWX Technologies in Lynchburg, Va. The NRC, worried about releasing sensitive information, has withheld all documents about the two facilities since 2004, including a report on a potentially lethal spill of highly enriched uranium in 2006 at Erwin. The decision followed congressional pressure and an outcry from environmentalists and residents near the Tennessee facility after the NRC revealed the uranium leak in April as part of the NRC's annual report to Congress. The spill was one of three major incidents involving NRC licensees in 2006.

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=37927&dcn=todaysnews

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

12. *September 4, GovernmentExecutive.com* – **Pentagon eyes synthetic fuels.** Lawmakers Wednesday will hear from a panel about the pros and cons of turning coal into liquid fuels for transportation, a topic of particular importance to officials at the Defense Department, which is the single largest petroleum consumer in the world. The House Science and Technology Subcommittee on Energy and Environment called Wednesday's hearing to help determine how

best to allocate federal research dollars, primarily through the Energy Department, for what are known as coal-to-liquid technologies. Witnesses will discuss the environmental, technical and economic challenges for producing synthetic fuel from coal, as well as the national security implications of reducing the nation's dependence on foreign oil. The issue is of pressing concern at Defense, which relies on petroleum-based fuels to power virtually every major weapons system, from jets and ships to battlefield vehicles. Since the September 11 attacks, the Air Force alone has seen the cost of energy for aviation operations double to more than \$10 million a day, according to a recent study. To reduce both costs and the vulnerability inherent in its reliance on foreign petroleum, Defense has been aggressively experimenting with synthetic fuels.

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=37929&sid=60

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Banking and Finance Sector

13. *September 5, The Gazette* – **Lottery scams still a problem, especially for seniors.** An investigator stated that lottery scams are the largest complaint to law enforcement, and more often the victims are elderly people because “they are more trustful and often unsophisticated when it comes to financial affairs, and they are more likely to not understand details well enough to evaluate an offer.” What is more alarming is the increase in scams originating from outside the United States, which local law enforcement officials cannot investigate. Usually, fraudsters ask the victims to wire a certain amount of money to cover taxes or processing fees before “forking over the fake money”. Many times as in the case of a senior who went to Wells Fargo in Denver to wire \$30,000 to South Korea, bank employees are obliged to warn and to even refuse the transaction in order to prevent fraud. Authorities sent warning out highlighting the fact that there is no foreign lottery that is legal in the U.S. Other increasingly popular scams involve fake checks and auction overpayments. As in all scam cases, individuals are urged not to wire money to unknown people.

Source: http://www.gazette.com/articles/lottery_26881_article.html/bank_scams.html

14. *September 5, The Moultrie Observer* – **Beware of scammers asking money for ‘body armor’.** Police in Moultrie, Georgia, released a warning of fraudsters calling the local residents and posing as police employees asking for donations for ‘body armor.’ Moultrie police spokesman made it clear that the department does not solicit donations from the public to purchase such items. Body armor products are acquired with money coming from grants. Moultrie residents have also received bogus checks sent by scammers claiming the recipients won lotteries or inherited large sums of money. The fraudulent process requires the recipients to deposit the checks and wire a portion of the money to cover taxes and other fees. Police officials urged the locals to be vigilant and avoid these type of scams because “If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.”

Source:

http://www.moultrieobserver.com/local/local_story_247232658.html?keyword=topstory

15. *September 5, The Washington Post* – **Investment pitches prey on elderly.** In light of an increasing amount of financial investment groups taking advantage of the elderly population, government officials in seven states conducted an investigation, the results of which “are

"deeply disturbing" and have produced multiple law enforcement referrals." Many financial advisers take advantage of retirees by posing as "senior experts, using fancy titles to lure the elderly to marketing seminars and then locking up their savings in investments that carry high commissions and withdrawal fees." The government report, which will be released soon, found that there are cases of fraud involved in many of the firms investigated. It is in this vain that Securities and Exchange Commission officials will meet on Monday to create avenues for combating this type of fraud. On the other hand, the Senate Special Committee on Aging is preparing a comprehensive training and educational program to inform and advise seniors how to detect which individuals work for unscrupulous financial groups. One way to differentiate the trustworthy advisors from the rest is to verify their credentials; certified financial planners usually undergo years of training and intense coursework. In order to deter financial groups from preying on the elderly, some state authorities brought sales representatives to court for "sending misleading marketing pitches or failure to stop deceptive sales tactics." More stringent actions are coming also from The North American Securities Administrators Association, which is preparing the enforcement of a rule banning the use of the word "expert" in order to mislead investors.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/09/04/AR2007090402281.html>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

16. *September 5, CCH.com* – **OSHA cites American Airlines at O'Hare International Airport for workplace safety and health violations.** After an impromptu inspection in July, The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) proposed a \$231,000 fine against Dallas-based American Airlines Inc. for "alleged multiple serious, repeat and willful violations of federal workplace safety standards at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago." A total of 15 serious violations were cited as a result of a thorough inspection at the airline's ramp services, cargo building, automotive shops, ticket and gate services, tower, two hangars and baggage room. The agency returned several times to the site between July, 2004 and August, 2007 and found numerous "willful" violations, for which the company has been previously cited and fined. Some of the problems OSHA mentioned in their report were failure to protect all open-sided floors and work platforms from potential fall hazards, machine guarding issues, electrical and fire hazards, review of lockout/tagout procedures and hygiene issues. OSHA inspected American Airlines 66 times since 2004 at different locations nationwide, and cited the company 37 times for various violations.

Source: <http://hr.cch.com/news/safety/090507a.asp>

17. *September 5, AP* – **NYC Cabbie group starts 2-day strike.** New York City's taxi drivers started a two-day strike Wednesday disturbing both residents and travelers during a very busy time period when the New York Fashion Week and the U.S. Open tennis tournament are taking place. To accommodate the passengers, taxis are allowed to pick multiple separate individuals. The protesters want to show their opposition to the implementation of new rules "requiring all cabs to have global positioning systems and touch-screen monitors that will let passengers pay by credit card," which might lead to high processing fees. It is still unclear how many of the city's 13,000 cab drivers participate in the protest, according to the executive director of the

New York Taxi Workers Alliance. Precautionary measures were implemented by the city's police, which designated officers to guard garages and transportation hubs, and to ride in taxis in order to prevent any negative repercussions on those refusing to participate in the strike. According to city officials, the new technology is aimed at increasing the number of people choosing taxis as their means of transportation. The new GPS devices will be made mandatory starting October 1.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/wires/2007Sep05/0,4670,NYCTaxiStrike.00.html>

18. *September 5, Seattle Times* – **Lines at Canadian border likely to grow as construction starts.** An upcoming construction project is likely to slow down even more the traffic at the Peace Arch crossing, on the U.S. - Canada border. Customs officials announced that during the project scheduled to start this fall and end in 2009, the operable lanes will be reduced to three or four or even fewer at times. Many officials worry about the degree to which the traffic will be affected given the fact that currently, drivers wait for several hours to cross into the U.S. due to new ID checking regulations. The \$72 million reconstruction plan is aimed at preparing traffic for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, B.C., and ultimately to reduce the wait times.

Source: http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/travel/2003869112_border05m.html

19. *September 5, Press Citizen* – **Iowa City Airport gets federal grant.** The Iowa City Municipal Airport is the beneficiary of a \$1.37 million federal grant used to enhance the airport's infrastructure, more precisely to extend runways. The award was announced by an Iowa senator, who is also is a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation panel that oversees funding. The airport improvements are hoped to attract new businesses, and ultimately to improve the local economy, according to the senator.

Source: <http://www.press-citizen.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070905/NEWS01/709050317/1079>

20. *September 5, The Morning Call* – **56 locally owned Valley bridges are 'structurally deficient'.** Pennsylvania Department of Transportation announced that 56 bridges in the Lehigh Valley are designated as 'structurally deficient' and need to undergo repairs. Some of the bridges found in the worst condition are Hokendauqua Bridge crossing abandoned railroad tracks, the Hokendauqua-North Catasauqua Bridge over the Lehigh River, and the bridge on the Indian Trail Road over Indian Creek south of Pennsville, Lehigh Township. According to the report released by PennDOT, which is the third since the Minneapolis bridge collapsed, one-third of "Pennsylvania bridges that are 20 feet or longer and owned by counties or municipalities are structurally deficient." The controversial label does not mean the bridges are unsafe, said the DOT spokesman. Similar to the two previous reports, all bridges received a score on a scale of 0 to 100, with 0 being the worst. The aforementioned Hokendauqua Bridge rated a 7, and the Hokendauqua-North Catasauqua Bridge rated a 2. For a complete list of the bridges with the worst scores, visit the PennDOT website.

Source: http://www.mcall.com/news/local/all-a1_5bridges1.6026442sep05,0,3726447,print.story?coll=all_tab01_layout

21. *September 5, NewsLeader* – **VDOT announces road closures.** According to the Virginia Department of Transportation, two routes in Rockbridge County will undergo construction and

remain closed until October. Borden Grant Trail (Va. 706) over Marlbrook Creek at Va. 711 will be closed from 8 a.m. Monday until 4:30 p.m. Oct. 26 for bridge replacement. Traffic will be detoured onto Jonestown Road (Va. 707) to U.S. 11. Mackeys Lane (Va. 714) will also be closed Monday for pipe installation from U.S. 11 to Borden Grant Trail. The VDOT officials urged travelers to use alternative roads to avoid the area. For more information, call (800) 367-ROAD.

Source:

<http://www.newsleader.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070905/NEWS01/709050313/1002>

22. *September 5, CNNMoney* – **Jacobs receives contract from Georgia Department of Transportation.** The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) announced the winner of a contract aimed at widening and reconstructing two roadway sections north of Atlanta is Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. In exchange to an undisclosed amount of money, Jacobs will “provide roadway and bridge design, and related engineering services, such as concept development, public involvement, traffic engineering, environmental documents, and geotech.” The project will total 12.3 miles on SR 151/Ooltewah-Ringgold Highway from US 41 north to the Tennessee state line (approximately 5 miles) in Cherokee County; and SR 60/SR 60 SP from SR 2 to the North Carolina border (approximately 7.3 miles) in Catoosa County. Officials did not specify when and for how long the construction will last.

Source: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/LAW90105092007-1.htm>

23. *September 5, Biz Journals* – **Airport gets grant for new UPS taxiway.** The U.S. Department of Transportation announced a \$1.63 million grant for Louisville International Airport, which will be used to build a new taxiway near the United Parcel Service Inc. Worldport hub. The first phase of the project, which already started and is 80 percent completed, involves 3,600 feet of asphalt roadway, installation of 1,200 feet of storm drain lines, a culvert and fencing adjacent to the new roadway.

Source:

<http://news.moneycentral.msn.com/provider/providerarticle.aspx?Feed=ACBJ&Date=20070904&ID=7415185>

24. *September 4, Insurance Journal* – **U.S. Distributes \$109 Million to States with Primary Seat Belt Laws.** The U.S. Transportation will award \$109 million to 17 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and four territories for seat belt projects. "Having a strong seat belt law is crucial to saving lives," Transportation Secretary said. The project is aimed at encouraging states to pass more stringent laws regarding the use of seat belts, especially for “any highway safety purpose either for behavioral programs or for infrastructure.” The grant was awarded under the auspices of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users in 2005, (SAFETEA-LU) Section 406, Safety Belt Performance Grants. For a complete list of all the states and the amount of money they received, visit

www.insurancejournal.com .

Source: <http://www.insurancejournal.com/news/national/2007/09/04/83185.htm>

25. *September 4, Biz Journals* – **Homeland Security allows S.A. airport to receive international private jets.** San Antonio International Airport has officially become "Airport of First Landing" for private aircraft, according to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and

Customs and Border Protection. The decision, which was announced by the San Antonio U.S. Rep. Senator, will be inked by the Secretary of Homeland Security later this week. Previously, private aircraft were obliged to first land at an official customs entry airport when on their way to San Antonio. The senator, who played a major role in trying to expedite the approval process with the Department of Homeland Security and Customs and Border Protection, believes that the change will enhance business, commerce, and trade relationships, especially throughout Mexico. San Antonio airport is the destination of millions of tourists, who travel each year in private aircraft.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/sanantonio/stories/2007/09/03/daily5.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

26. *September 4, Naples News* – **Scam promises winnings from bogus Marco sweepstakes.**

Police officials from Marco Island, FL have notified the U.S. Postal Inspection Service of a scam that promises nonexistent sweepstakes winnings to unsuspecting victims. People are sent a letter, telling them that they have won a sweepstakes along with a counterfeit Fifth Third Bank check. The letter instructs them to cash the check and send money to a payment center in Toronto to cover "processing & handling charges." According to a Marco Island detective, the city and bank have procedures in place to ensure that they won't suffer any financial losses due to counterfeit checks.

Source: http://www.marconews.com/news/2007/sep/04/no_money_you/

27. *September 5, CNN Money* – **U.S. Postal Service Awards Siemens Contract Expansion for Mail Sorting Equipment.** Siemens AG, one of the largest global electronics and engineering companies, announced today that it has been awarded a \$54.6 million contract modification from the United States Postal Service (USPS) for additional mail sorting equipment. The award encompasses an additional 110 Delivery Bar Code Sorter (DBCS 6) machines to expand USPS' existing fleet of letter sorting equipment. Siemens will provide installation and associated integrated logistics support services for the new machines in addition to carts used to transport trays of sorted mail. Production and installation of the DBCS 6 order is expected to be completed by April 31, 2008. This is the second order for the DBCS 6. In November 2006, Siemens was awarded a \$109.4 million contract for 211 of those machines.

Source: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/CLW03205092007-1.htm>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

28. *September 5, AP* – **Microwave popcorn can cause lung disease, top doctor says.** A pulmonary specialist at Denver's National Jewish Medical and Research Center has written to federal agencies to say doctors there believe they have the first case of a consumer who developed lung disease from the fumes of microwaving popcorn several times a day for years. The patient's doctor there acknowledged in the letter that it is difficult to confirm that popping buttered microwave popcorn at home can cause lung disease on the basis of a single case. However, she said she wanted to alert regulators of the potential public health implications.

The patient, according to the report, consumed "several bags of extra butter flavored microwave popcorn" every day for several years.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,295761,00.html>

29. *September 5, Tucson Citizen* – **UA, China join to boost rice crops to feed globe.** A supercharged rice crop to feed the world's growing population is being developed by researchers from the University of Arizona in cooperation with the Shennong Center for Crop Functional Genomics and the Huazhong Agricultural University in Wuhan, China. The director of the Arizona Genomics Institute said that rice yields must double to keep the world fed. "It's a critical time right now. People are just putting more and more fertilizer into the soil, and most of it is going into the rivers. It is a huge problem. We need to develop new varieties of rice that require less chemical fertilizer or we will end up with dead rivers. This is becoming an environmental disaster in some of these huge countries that depend so much on rice, like China and India. We have to come up with new solutions on how to improve the environment as well as feed the people."

Source: <http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/ss/frontpage/61207.php>

30. *September 5, Choson Ilbao* – **Rib bones found in US beef shipment.** A shipment of beef was returned to the U.S. after it was found to contain rib bones, the National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service (NVRQS) said Tuesday. Quarantine inspections revealed a box of bone-in beef among 15.5 tons of beef U.S. exported beef. Korean regulations stipulate that beef from the U.S. must be boneless meat from cattle less than 30 months old. The shipment came from U.S. processor and exporter Swift, which had been banned from shipping beef to Korea on July 31. The offending box left the U.S. two days before Swift's shipments were suspended and was imported at Busan Port on Aug. 10. The NVRQS returned the entire shipment of 15.5 tons to the U.S. Some 4,318 tons of beef from the U.S. is currently being inspected, according to the South Korean Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Source: <http://english.chosun.com/w21data/html/news/200709/200709050011.html>

31. *September 4, Science Daily* – **Mojito cocktail garnish is recalled.** The Food and Drug Administration announced the recall of approximately 5,000 cases of Rimmer Mojito Cocktail Garnish due to possible contamination. Stirrings LLC of Fall River, Mass., initiated the voluntary nationwide recall of the 3.5-ounce packages because they might be contaminated with salmonella bacteria. The recalled cocktail garnish has a UPC of 80999-00046 with a best by date of 10/27/08, 10/30/08, 11/23/08, 12/01/08, 12/04/08 or 01/03/09 printed on the side of the tin.

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/upi/index.php?feed=Science&article=UPI-1-20070904-12202000-bc-us-cocktailgarnish-recall.xml>

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Water Sector

32. *September 5, San Jose Mercury News* – **Water rationing could be on horizon.** Due to a recent ruling by a US District judge in Fresno, CA, mandatory water rationing is under consideration in California. The judge ruled that 10-25% less water must be pumped from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, so that two main waterways no longer run backwards

and the Delta smelt population can recover. Farmers are likely to be most affected, but 25 million people throughout California receive their drinking water from the delta.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/healthandscience/ci_6804690

33. *September 5, Standard-Times* – **Wareham water crisis drags on.** Residents in Wareham, MA continue to boil water after several test results showed E. coli in their water. The boiling order, which was issued on August 27th, may be lifted later this week if further tests show that the water is clean. There have been no illnesses related to the contamination, but local businesses have suffered. The exact source is unknown, but there were four incidents in late summer that may have caused it.

Source:

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070905/NEWS/709050327>

34. *September 5, Orlando Sentinel* – **Another child dies from amoeba infection contracted in lake.** A second child died in Florida due to an amoeba infection contracted in a local lake. The amoeba flourishes when the temperature of the lake exceeds 80 degrees Fahrenheit, but is not easily spread between humans.

Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/features/health/orl-bk-amoeba09052007,0,7110113.story?coll=orl-jobs-utility>

35. *September 5, Union-Tribune* – **Otay water report faults inspectors.** A district report blames inspectors, contractors, and others in an August incident, which caused treated sewage, rather than drinking water, to flow out of a business park's taps. Most of the problems stem from two years ago when a recycled water pipe was mistakenly connected to a drinking water meter. These were compounded by poor engineering plans for the business park and incomplete inspections. To prevent future problems, the district has begun marking recycled water taps more clearly and will test water at both the meter and the tap.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20070905-9999-1m5otay.html>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

36. *September 5, Forbes* – **Mattel Issues Third Recall of China-Made Toys.** Late Tuesday night, toymaker Mattel announced a global recall, covering 11 types of toys, including 675,000 units of accessories--pet figurines and furniture play sets--sold under the Barbie brand and 98,900 units of Fisher-Price toys because of impermissible levels of lead. More than 60% of these toys were sold in the United States. The recall is part of Mattel's ongoing investigation of its toys manufactured by vendors in China. In mid-August, Mattel recalled of millions of Chinese-made toys because they contained small magnets that could be swallowed or carried unsafe levels of lead. This followed the massive, initial recall in early August that involved 1.5 million toys worldwide.

Source: http://www.forbes.com/markets/2007/09/05/mattel-third-recall-markets-equity-cx_vk_0905markets01.html

37. *September 5, EON, Ontario* – **12 West Nile cases in Mississippi.** The Mississippi Department of Health confirmed on Tuesday that 12 new cases of West Nile virus have hit in the last week.

Hinds, Madison, and Rankin all have had three cases. Forrest County, Lauderdale, and Leflore have one. 44 cases so far this year in Mississippi have resulted in one death.

Source: <http://www.ontarionow.com/us/2007/09/05/12-new-west-nile-cases-in-mississippi/>

38. *September 5, The Salt Lake Tribune* – **West Nile case confirmed.** The Southwest Utah Public Health Department has confirmed its first case of West Nile virus. The case, discovered in Washington County, was reported to the health department Friday. The infected person is at home and is reportedly in good condition.

Source: http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_6804295

39. *September 4, The Boston Globe* – **Boston man confirmed to have West Nile virus.** State health officials say they have confirmed a second human case of West Nile virus in Massachusetts. The state Public Health Department says the 54-year-old Boston man likely contracted the disease during a recent vacation in Montana where there have been more than three dozen confirmed human cases this summer.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2007/09/04/boston_man_confirmed_to_have_west_nile_virus/

40. *September 4, WFSB 12, Montgomery* – **Two in Montgomery Hit with West Nile Virus; Eight Victims Statewide.** Alabama has recorded at least eight West Nile virus cases this year, and the two most recently reported cases were blocks from downtown Montgomery. Alabama has eight confirmed or probable cases so far this year, in Baldwin, Chambers, Jefferson, Madison, Marshall, Mobile and Montgomery counties. One person has died.

Source: <http://www.wsfa.com/Global/story.asp?S=7025911&nav=0RdE>

41. *September 4, WFSB 12, Environment News Service* – **Test for West Nile in donated blood approved.** Tuesday, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced approval of a second test for the detection of West Nile virus in blood and organs. The Cobas TaqScreen West Nile virus test, manufactured by Roche Molecular Systems Inc. of Pleasanton, California, is an automated test that is able to detect the genetic material of the virus itself early in the infection. Such nucleic acid testing improves blood and organ safety, detecting whether donated blood and organs have been infected even before the donor's body has begun to produce antibodies against the virus.

Source: <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/sep2007/2007-09-04-096.asp>

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Government Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

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Emergency Services Sector

42. *September 5, MyrtleBeachOnline.com - The Sun News* – **Agency receives funding for**

Homeland Defense training. The Brunswick County Department of Emergency Services has received a U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant for the first phase of what officials hope will be multiyear funding to identify and train personnel for situations that might arise at the proposed N.C. International Port. The department got \$112,000 for what is to be a multi-county response plan and will match it with about \$38,000 in local time and effort to develop it. The initial phase is to include an exercise sometime next year based on what personnel learn in classes being developed with Brunswick Community College, said Brunswick's director of emergency services. Development of the plan is to include emergency responders from Brunswick, Pender, New Hanover and Columbus counties in North Carolina as well as possibly Horry County.

Source: <http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/story/177919.html>

43. *September 5, WTNH* – **Connecticut police to unveil new communication gear.**

Connecticut's first responders will soon have new technology to help them out in emergency situations. Today they will get a communication system that helps connect departments across the state. Connecticut will be the first state in the nation to have the radio common channel in place. It's meant to keep the lines of communication open during a crisis. With the same radio frequency the connection could be instantaneous, and many say this is long overdue.

Source: <http://www.wtnh.com/global/story.asp?s=7027349>

44. *September 4, KOTV* – **Oklahoma first responders participate in terrorism drill.**

Tulsa emergency workers are another step closer to being able to handle a terrorist attack. Area groups practiced a full scale terrorism exercise Tuesday along with the Oklahoma National Guard. The terrorism drill involved two threats, a dirty bomb that was leaking radiological material and a chemical lab that was booby-trapped. Tuesday's exercise included Tulsa, Sapulpa, Claremore and the military. Of course, the goal is to get all these agencies together and talking and understanding the chain of command before a real terrorist attack. Tulsa area emergency responders do at least one full scale exercise every year.

Source: <http://www.kotv.com/news/local/story/?id=135332>

45. *September 4, Naples news* – **Grid training helps emergency responders find victims.**

Southwest Florida Urban Search and Rescue team members received training last week in the U.S. National Grid System, a navigational reference tool emergency responders hope will prove useful during any natural disasters. In the past four years, the Southwest Florida USAR team has responded to seven hurricane emergencies, said Ken Craft, deputy chief of special operations at the Bonita Springs Fire and Rescue District. The grid system will do away with confusion that often arises when responders from different areas work together at disaster scenes, according to a spokeswoman for the Estero Fire and Rescue District, and training coordinator for USAR, Florida Task Force 6. The U.S. military has always used the national grid system, which is based on universally defined coordinates. In mid-September, USAR members will attend the second and final portion of the grid system training course. After that, all emergency responders at fire departments in the area will begin taking the course, according to the lead instructor and developer of the program. It will eventually be taught to new recruits at firefighter schools. The Southwest Florida Urban Search and Rescue team is comprised of 84 personnel including firefighters, EMTs, paramedics and law enforcement officers.

Source:

http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2007/sep/04/grid_training_helps_emergency_responders_find_vict/

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Information Technology

46. *September 05, BBC News* – **Cyber crime tool kits go on sale.** Malicious hackers are producing easy to use tools that automate attacks to cash in on a boom in hi-tech crime. On sale, say security experts, are everything from individual viruses to comprehensive kits that let budding cyber thieves craft their own attacks. Some of the most expensive tools are sold with 12 months of technical support that ensures they stay armed with the latest vulnerabilities. According to a representative of security company Sana, malicious hackers have evolved over the last few years and are now selling the tools they used to use to the growing numbers of fledgling cyber thieves. He said some hacking groups offer boutique virus writing services that produce malicious programs that security software will not spot. At the top end of the scale, he said, were tools like the notorious MPack, which has proved very popular with criminally minded groups and in late June 2007 managed to subvert more than 10,000 websites in one attack that drew on the tool. An official from Secure Computing said one reason for the growing trend is reduced risk. Many hacking groups were attracted to selling the kits because it meant they took little risk themselves if the malicious software was used to commit crimes, he said.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/technology/6976308.stm>

47. *September 05, AFP* – **Pentagon says several countries trying to hack into US military systems.** Several nations and groups are trying to break into the US military's computer system, the Pentagon said Tuesday after reports China's military had successfully hacked into the network. The Chinese military's cyber-attack was carried out in June following months of efforts, the London-based Financial Times reported Tuesday, citing unnamed current and former US officials. A US Defense Department spokesman declined to comment on the reported Chinese attack but said the Pentagon "aggressively monitors its networks for intrusions and has appropriate procedures to address" them. "We know that a number of nations and groups are actively developing these capabilities," he said. "We have seen attempts by a variety of state and non-state sponsored organizations to gain unauthorized access to, or otherwise degrade, DoD information systems." The spokesman said the department would not comment on any ongoing investigations and would not discuss details of the potential impact to its networks, operations or protection efforts and strategies. Without referring to the Chinese attack, he said that late last spring – around the time the reported Chinese military hacking took place – the email system at Defense Secretary Gates' office was briefly taken off-line due to a "detected penetration." "All precautionary measures were taken and the system was restored to service soon afterward," he said, adding that the department had back-up systems in place and there was no damage done to its operations.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070905/tc_afp/uschinamilitaryespionageit_070905061317;_ylt=AtBSGY1E0LapfqU6QD.v7AzYa7gF

48. *September 05, IDG News Service* – **Bind 8 DNS server retired by serious security flaw.** A security researcher has found a serious vulnerability in an aging yet widely used software

program used for the Internet's addressing system, prompting the software's maintainers to retire the affected version. The flaw within Berkeley Internet Name Domain 8 (Bind 8) software could misdirect users to a fraudulent Web site even if a user typed in the correct URL (uniform resource locator), wrote the chief technology officer for security vendor Trusteer who discovered the problem. Users are being advised to upgrade to Bind 9.4, the latest version of the software, which underwent an architecture rewrite to improve security. The software, looked after by the Internet Software Consortium (ISC), is free to download. ISC issued an interim patch, but due to other weaknesses in the software, ISC is also ending support for Bind 8. "It's never easy to retire a product," wrote the organization in an advisory. "The security issues of Bind 8 are many, and seven years after the release of Bind 9, ISC must devote our efforts to maintaining and enhancing the current version." About 14 percent of the DNS servers on the Internet in 2006 were still using Bind 8, according to Infoblox, which conducts an annual survey of DNS servers. "Bind 8 is still a very popular DNS server nowadays, thus this attack applies to a big part of Internet users," wrote the Trusteer officer.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/infoworld/20070905/tc_infoworld/91557;_ylt=AtjMIC3F2E12QhmNyDwZnP_6VbIF

49. *September 04, ComputerWorld* – **Pharmaceutical company confirms third breach involving employee data since June.** Pfizer confirmed today that as many as 34,000 of its employees may be at risk of identity theft after a former employee illegally accessed and download copies of confidential information from a Pfizer computer system without the company's knowledge. The compromised information included, names, Social Security numbers, dates of birth, phone numbers and bank and credit card information. The incident occurred sometime late last year but was discovered by Pfizer only on July 10, according to a Pfizer spokeswoman. The company started notifying individuals of the breach on Aug. 24. The spokeswoman did not say when or where exactly the breach occurred or how the company discovered it, but said that so far, at least, the compromised information doesn't appear to have been misused. This is the third time since June that Pfizer has disclosed a data breach. The first incident involved the potential compromise of personally identifiable information belonging to about 17,000 people when the spouse of an employee illegally downloaded and used file-sharing software on a company computer. Then in July, the company reported that two laptops containing confidential employee data as well as proprietary company information were stolen out of the locked car of an employee.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9034319&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

50. *September 04, Infoworld* – **FBI: Enterprises need counterintelligence.** The FBI is asking more companies to join its Counterintelligence Domain Program so that together, they can proactively fight against hacks and data theft. The threat of cyber attacks has forced the FBI to push businesses and academic institutions to better prepare for such attacks. Little publicly-available evidence exists to prove that foreign governments have backed or planned to launch attempts to steal intellectual property from U.S. corporations and researchers, but officials with the FBI claim that the problem is real and that American organizations must begin policing their operations more aggressively today to prevent valuable data from being stolen tomorrow.

In October, the FBI's Counterintelligence Domain Program -- which aims to foster cooperation between the agency and private entities to help organizations identify and protect potential intelligence risks -- will mark its first year in existence. The program is already making significant steps in helping to close the gap between businesses and law enforcement to defend intellectual property from being left vulnerable to potential theft, FBI officials maintain. Thus far, the Domain project has materialized primarily in the form of relationships built between the leaders of the agency's 56 individual divisions and the leading corporate entities and research groups identified by those units as organizations that control data that criminals and governments could try to get their hands on.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/09/04/Enterprises-need-counterintelligence_1.html?source=rss&url=http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/09/04/Enterprises-need-counterintelligence_1.html

51. *September 4, PRNewswire* – **Study: Data in the USA and Germany Not Securely Deleted.**

In a new study "Data Data Everywhere," O&O Software purchased around 400 used storage volumes in Germany and the U.S. with the goal of finding out whether the contained files really were securely deleted. The analysis of the recovered files was shocking for the study's authors. With little difficulty they were able to recover private letters, informative resumes or frivolous e-mails that would cause serious damage if they fell into the wrong hands – just the sort of data that cybercriminals on the Internet go through enormous trouble, using Spyware and Trojan viruses, to get their hands on and use against unsuspecting users. U.S. Americans did not behave much better than the Germans in terms of data security. Of the 80 purchased hard disks originating in the USA, 12 were defective and not included further in the analysis. Though 12 of the hard disks purchased in the U.S. were defective, 45 percent of the functional disks revealed reconstructed data to the researchers. "On the hard disks originating in the USA, a large number of explosive findings were made, including photos from soldiers in Iraq and U.S. military information. If data, such as the web access information for the US Air Force we found, were misused the damage would be devastating. Considering that we only purchased 80 hard disks from the USA, this is a surprisingly high quota." The Study Results for "Data Data Everywhere" are available as PDF for immediate download: <http://www.oo-software.com/dde2007/>

Source: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/09-04-2007/0004655824&EDATE=>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

52. *September 05, PRNewswire* – **\$50 million investment planned for upstate New York wireless network in 2007.** AT&T announced in a press release plans to invest about \$50 million this year in the wireless network in the territory spanning from Buffalo to Albany. The plans include 18 new cell sites and approximately 500 new radios to nearly 350 cell sites throughout the state. It also includes 150 new hardware cabinets and power amplifiers to increase capacity.

Source: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/09-05-2007/0004656395&EDATE>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

53. *September 5, Midhudson News* – **Four million gallon oil tank on fire, area being evacuated.** Police are evacuating residences and businesses in the Prospect Street area of the City of Poughkeepsie as a 40 foot by 50 foot, four million gallon capacity fuel tank is on fire. The Coast Guard and fire department have boats on the river with fire booms and fire vehicles are foaming down the scene. Fire departments from as far away as the Air National Guard at Stewart Airport are being called in to the scene.

Source: http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/Pok_OilTank-05Sep07.htm

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

54. *September 5, Kennebec Journal* – **Vandals deface Farmingdale monument.** A granite war memorial in Farmingdale, Maine was vandalized on Monday night. The vandals poured yellow paint on the monument and cut down the American flag.

Source: <http://kennebecjournal.maintoday.com/news/local/4245601.html>

55. *September 3, Voice of America* – **Glacier National Park rapidly loosing its glaciers.** According to a geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, the glaciers at Glacier National park are melting at an alarming rate. If the current melting trend continues all of the glaciers will be gone within 20 years, he said.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/english/2007-09-03-voa42.cfm>

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Dams Sector

56. *September 05, The Tennessean* – **Leaky Tennessee dam dangerous, expensive to fix.** Several hundred people could die and more than a billion dollars in damage could result if the leaking Center Hill Dam about 40 miles east of Nashville broke, according to a federal report. Repairs would cost \$240 million and take seven to 10 years, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report released last month. The water would rush down the Caney Fork and into the Cumberland above Old Hickory Dam. Since 2005, the Corps of Engineers has kept water in the lake lower to keep pressure off the dam. Further lowering could be needed for repair work, which includes filling hollow areas behind and under the dam and building new walls.

Depending on the water level, river flows, water quality and economics would be affected "throughout the length of the Cumberland River Valley," according to the document. "It's a serious seepage problem we're having, and we're taking steps to fix that," said a spokesman for the Nashville Corps office. The Corps is monitoring the dam for sinkholes and other signs of imminent danger, but no failure is expected there immediately, he said. Chronic erosion of the limestone under and around the dam has caused concern and required work since it was built in 1951. A waterfall is gushing today from a fissure beside the dam. The report assesses environmental effects of different possible water levels as the dam is fixed and outlines nine potential measures.

Source:

<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070905/NEWS02/709050431>

57. *September 4, WSLS News Channel 10, Roanoke* – **Engineers find holes, cracks in local dam.**

Engineers with a Roanoke firm found several cracks and at least one gapping hole in the low water dam at Jordan's Pointe Park in Lexington, VA. An inspector said that the dam is in poor condition and estimated the hole allowed at least 1,000 gallons of water escape per minute.

Source: http://www.wsls.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=WSLS%2FMGArticle%2FSLS_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1173352627489&path=!news!localnews

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